

International Code Council Government Relations Update

August 2012

ICC/ASHE Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare: Must Read

In 2010, ICC and the American Society for Healthcare Engineers (ASHE) partnered to form the Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare. The objective of the committee is to develop code change proposals to the I-Codes which will result in the most contemporary, effective and efficient provisions for hospital and ambulatory care ensuring the highest level of safety for users. The ASHE/ICC Ad Hoc recognized that hospitals face unique challenges and a regulatory system that imposes Federal requirements as well as local fire and building code requirements, and the Committee has endeavored to harmonize the requirements of the regulations to be consistent with the I-Codes. To date, the Committee has spent hundreds of hours—in person and via conference call—developing over 30 proposals for the IBC and continues to research and work on proposals for the IFC. Check out ICC's dedicated page to find out about future meetings, minutes from past meetings, and technical information: <http://www.iccsafe.org/AHC>

ASHE recently published an Advocacy Report which specifically discusses codes and how they affect the health care physical environment. The background rationales for a number of pending and future code proposals are covered. "[ASHE] estimates that the health care industry wastes potentially billions of dollars a year because of overlapping and conflicting codes... By revamping codes--and reducing code conflicts-- hospitals have the potential to focus more of their valuable resources on patient care." Check out the full publication: http://www.ashe.org/resources/pdfs/ASHE_Advocacy_Report_2012.pdf

Online Registration Now Open for ICC's 2012 Annual Conference

We invite you to register now for the International Code Council's 10th Annual Conference, Final Action Code Hearings and Expo at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. Here are the important dates:

- Annual Conference: October 21 – 24
- ICC Expo: October 22 and 23
- (Group A) Final Action Code Hearings: October 24 – 28

The registration site is available here: http://s3.goeshow.com/icc/annual/2012/registration_info.cfm

New System to Establish Voter Eligibility – The International Code Council is launching a new way to ensure that Governmental Voting Representatives are **eligible to vote** on code changes. *All Primary Member Representatives need to designate their Governmental Member Voting Representatives (GMVR) online by **September 21, 2012**, to be eligible to vote at the Annual Business Meeting and/or Final Action Hearings.*

Code of Honor Scholarship Program Applications End August 24

If you are an ICC Governmental Member Voting Representative, don't miss your chance to apply for a Code of Honor Scholarship to attend ICC's 10th Annual Conference and Final Action Hearings October 21–28, 2012, in Portland, Oregon.

The application period opened today at 9:00 a.m. EDT and will close Friday, August 24, at 5:00 p.m. EDT.

The entire application process is online, and applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is critical to apply as early as possible. Find out more here: <http://www.icc-foundation.org/code-of-honor-scholarships>

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ICC Expands Services for Chapter Members to Support Attendance at Professional Events

To support your participation in International Code Council and Chapter events, and to justify to your supervisor and elected officials the value to your community and public safety as a result of your attendance at ICC and Chapter events, we are providing a new service to all Chapter members. ICC will write and send a letter to your employer, supervisor, elected official or other individuals who play a part in authorizing your attendance at the ICC Annual Conference and/or your participation in your local, state and/or regional Chapter(s), encouraging their support for your efforts. Simply follow this link <http://www.iccsafe.org/Membership/Pages/SupportLetter.aspx> and take just a moment to provide us with some basic information. ICC will customize the letter with the information you provide and either send it directly to your chief administrative authority or to you so you can provide the letter. Complete the form now so you can continue moving your career forward and providing public safety.

Call for Entries: 'Excellence in Energy Code Compliance' Award

A new award granted by the nonprofit Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) will recognize jurisdictions that have had success in achieving energy code compliance in a cost-effective manner. Winners will be announced at the ICC 2012 Annual Conference in Portland, Ore.; featured in EcoHome, a national green-building magazine; and spotlighted on IMT's website (soon to relaunch), imt.org.

All local or state government enforcement programs are eligible, including but not limited to: energy code compliance training programs; programs that depend on third-party enforcement companies; and programs supported by utilities.

Applications are due August 15. For more information and an entry form, visit imt.org/codecompliance or contact Andrea Krukowski: andrea@imt.org, (202) 525-2883 x. 308.

FEMA Seeks Comments on New Flood Hazard Determinations

FEMA wants comments on its new proposed flood hazards determinations in select communities in Florida, Rhode Island, and Wyoming, which will be used to determine qualification for the National Flood Insurance Program. Comments are to be submitted on or before October 9, 2012. More information, including how to submit your comments, located here: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/07/10/2012-16862/proposed-flood-hazard-determinations>

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Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Coverage for Certain Firefighters

The United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing an interim final rule to amend the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) regulations to make certain firefighters hired by the Federal government under a temporary appointment eligible to be enrolled in a health benefits plan under the FEHB. Find out more about this ruling here: https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/07/19/2012-17623/federal-employees-health-benefits-program-coverage-for-certain-firefighters?utm_content=header&utm_medium=slideshow&utm_source=homepage

ICC, NFPA Create Coalition to Advance Public Safety in the Built Environment

Formed June 5th, 2012, the Coalition for Current Safety Codes (CCSC) is aimed at advancing public safety by advocating for the adoption of current building, sustainability, electrical and life safety codes. This coalition, Co-Chaired by ICC and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), will serve to create more public awareness and broader support for the adoption of the codes that protect the health and welfare of our society. To join the Coalition and to get involved, visit: <http://www.coalition4safety.org/involve.html>

cdp ACCESS Steering Committee Schedules Upcoming Webinars

The cdp ACCESS Steering Committee will hold a number of online presentations over the next few months, open to the public, about the effort to incorporate new technology to expand participation in the code development process. The first Webinar took place on July 11 and provided an overview and introduction of the preliminary cdp ACCESS work plan. Upcoming webinars will continue to inform on progress and engage Members for direction and feedback. Please register to participate in these upcoming interactive webinars here. Questions can be submitted beforehand and in real time at cdpaccess@iccsafe.org. Provided below are resources to help you familiarize yourself and others with cdpAccess:

Overview Presentation: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/cdpACCESS/Documents/cdpACCESS-April2012.pps>

7/30/12 Update Report: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/cdpACCESS/Documents/cdpACCESSReport_7302012.pdf

7/11/12 Webinar Slides: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/cdpACCESS/Documents/cdpACCESS_Webinar-071112.pptx

7/11/12 Webinar Webcast: <http://youtu.be/sRY75900KQw>